

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for attaching a mechanical fastener to an absorbent article comprising the steps of:

- 2
- 3 a) providing said absorbent article;
- 4 b) providing said mechanical fastener;
- 5 c) applying a slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive to said absorbent article in a target
- 6 area; and
- 7 d) attaching said mechanical fastener to said absorbent article in the target area with
- 8 slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive under conditions sufficient to result in a
- 9 mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond static shear strength of at least about
- 10 50 min/kg.

1 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond

2 static shear strength is at least about 200 min/kg.

1 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said absorbent article comprises an ear tab, an

2 elastomer substrate attached to said ear tab, and a film substrate attached to said

3 elastomer substrate, wherein said target area with slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is

4 located on said film substrate.

1 4. The method according to claim 3 wherein said elastomer substrate is selected from the

2 group consisting of a nonwoven and a laminate structure.

1 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is

2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article at a temperature below about 325 °F.

1 6. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is  
2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article using a process selected from the group  
3 consisting of slot coating, solid shim coating, comb shim coating, and spray-on  
4 techniques.

1 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is  
2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article in an amount less than about 0.045  
3 grams/target area.

1 8. An absorbent article comprising:

- 2 a) a liquid pervious topsheet;  
3 b) a liquid impervious backsheet joined to said topsheet;  
4 c) an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet; and  
5 d) at least one mechanical fastener positioned so as to secure the absorbent article to  
6 an intended user, wherein the mechanical fastener is attached to said absorbent  
7 article using a slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive under conditions sufficient to  
8 result in a mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond static shear strength of at  
9 least about 50 min/kg.

1 9. The absorbent article of claim 8 further comprising:

- 2 a) an ear tab attached to said backsheet;  
3 b) an elastomer substrate attached to said ear tab; and  
4 c) a film substrate attached to said elastomer substrate, wherein said mechanical  
5 fastener is attached to said film substrate.

- 1 10. The absorbent article of claim 8 wherein said mechanical fastener is a hook-type fastener  
2 tab.

0968610-101100